

*** VERSION SHOWING CHANGES MADE***



1. (Cancelled)
2. (Currently Amended) The retractor assembly of claim 1 4 wherein the connector allows pivoting of the stem side to side about a rotation axis intermediate a range of about +/- 60 degrees relative to the shaft axis about a rotation axis..
3. (Original) The retractor assembly of claim 2 wherein the tilting axis is spaced from and perpendicular to the rotation axis.
4. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ retractor assembly ~~of claim 1~~ comprising:
a support;
a clamp selectively positionable at a desired location on the support;
a retractor shaft connected to the clamp extending away from the clamp and support, and
having an end with a shaft axis extending through the end of the retractor shaft, said end
spaced by the retractor shaft from the clamp and support;
a connector connected to the retractor shaft at the end of the retractor shaft; and
a retractor blade connected to the connector by a stem, said stem retained to the shaft by
the connector and angularly positionable relative to the shaft axis up and down
intermediate a range of +/- twenty degrees relative to the shaft axis about a tilting axis;
and
wherein the clamp grips the support when secured at the desired location on the support.

5. (Currently Amended) The retractor assembly of claim 1 ~~4~~ wherein the support is a retractor support ring.
6. (Currently Amended) The retractor assembly of claim 1 ~~4~~ wherein the retractor shaft is substantially linear and extends along the axis.
7. (Currently Amended) The retractor assembly of claim 1 ~~4~~ wherein the connector further comprises a flange clevis connected to the retractor shaft which receives a pivot flange connected to the stem of the retractor blade, and said pivot flange is pivotable about a rotation axis, said rotation axis perpendicularly oriented to the shaft axis and tilting axis.
8. (Currently Amended) The A retractor assembly ~~of claim 7 further~~ comprising:
 - a support;
 - a clamp selectively positionable at a desired location on the support;
 - a retractor shaft connected to the clamp extending away from the clamp and support, and
 - having an end with a shaft axis extending through the end of the retractor shaft, said end
 - spaced by the retractor shaft from the clamp and support;
 - a connector connected to the retractor shaft at the end of the retractor shaft; and
 - a retractor blade connected to the connector by a stem, said stem retained to the shaft by
 - the connector and angularly positionable relative to the shaft axis up and down
 - intermediate a range of +/- twenty degrees relative to the shaft axis about a tilting axis;

wherein the connector further comprises a flange clevis connected to the retractor shaft which receives a pivot flange connected to the stem of the retractor blade, and said pivot flange is pivotable about a rotation axis, said rotation axis perpendicularly oriented to the shaft axis and tilting axis; and

a blade attachment boss and the pivot flange is connected to the blade attachment boss which connects to the stem to the retractor blade.

9. (Original) The retractor assembly of claim 8 wherein further comprising side slots in the blade attachment boss and the blade attachment boss is connected by a pin restrained by the side slots.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) The retractor assembly of claim ~~40~~ 4 wherein the connector further comprises a slot limiting the angle of the retractor blade relative to the shaft axis.

12. (Previously Amended) The retractor assembly of claim 11 further comprising a flange clevis connected to the shaft containing the slot therein, and a pivot flange angularly positionable within the slot thereby allowing the angle of the shoulder to be selected.

13 - 17. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) The retractor assembly of claim [17] 4 wherein the slot is laterally positioned to allow side to side movement of the hub in the slot about the rotation axis.
20. (Currently Amended) The retractor assembly of claim ~~17~~ 4 wherein the slot is intersected by the shaft axis.